Murder of Senior Manager, OBC

2385. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem published in the Punjab Kesari on 24th October, 1998 under the caption, "Bank Manager ki mrityu ka rahasya gaharaya";

(b) if so, whether investigations into murder of a Senior Manager of Oriental Bank of Commerce have since been completed;

(c) if so, what are the details regarding reports of medical authorities and investigation authority, separately;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to hand over this case to CBI; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government does not maintain details of individual incidents of crime or of progress in their investigation. Individual cases of crime occuring in the States (in this case, Punjab) are generally handed over to the CBI on the request of the concerned State Governments.

Dialogue with Terrorist Groups of N.E.

2386. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress as regards the dialogue with NSCN (1-M) and NSCN(K); and

(b) whether there is possibility of dialogue with ULFA at the current stage for solution of the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Government are committed to hold talks with the militant outfits of the North East to establish peace and normalcy in the region. The Prime Minister in his Press statement at Guwahati on 15.4.1998 had stated 'To all those who have strayed from the paths of togetherness, whether in Assam or other State of the North East, I extend an invitation: come forward, let us discuss, my Government is committed to holding talks, to a restoration of peace; let us do so within the four corners of our Constitution."

After talks with the Issac-Muivah group of the Natonal Socialist Council of Nagaland, it was mutually agreed to cease fire for three months with effect from 1st August, 1997. The cease fire has since been extended till end of July, 1999.

The ULFA has so far not responded to the call for talks within the parameters indicated by the Prime Minister.

Post-Midnight service of liquor in Delhi restaurants

2387. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that serving of liquor is prohibited after 12 p.m. in restaurants in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that this law is being blatantly flouted;

(c) whether any action has been taken against erring people; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken during the last one year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) The restaurants in Delhi are prohibited to serve liquor after 11.00 P.M.

(b) The licensed premises are inspected at regular intervals and appropriate action is taken when any such violation is noticed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the last one year, action was initiated in three cases. Whereas appropriate penalty has already been imposed in two of these cases, the statutory proceedings in the third case are in progress.

Legislation against custodial deaths

2388. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to bring a legislation against custodial deaths;

(b) if so, the main points thereof;

(c) if not, how Government propose to tackle this problem; and